

National Rural Health Alliance E-forum 21 August 2009

In this issue:

- \* "Time to Act" - 7th National Farm Health and Safety Conference
- \* Remote Indigenous Gardens Network Project (RIG Network)
- \* The Leadership in Nursing and Midwifery awards
- \* Rural Health Education Foundation satellite television broadcasts
- \* A mental health first aid training program for Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- \* Rural Health on the Web
- \* Federal Government News
- \* CRCAH News
- \* Rural Health on the ABC
- \* RDAA News
- \* Article in "Rural and Remote Health"
- \* ABS 3235.0 Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2008
- \* Healthy, wealthy and wise?: The relationship between health, employment and earnings in Australia
- \* Low Life Expectancy in the United States: Is the Health Care System at Fault?
- \* What's On
- \* Contribution and subscription information and disclaimer

+++++

"TIME to ACT" - 7<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL FARM HEALTH AND SAFETY CONFERENCE

Farmsafe WA Alliance is hosting "Time to Act" - 7th National Farm Health and Safety Conference on behalf of Farmsafe Australia.

13th to 15th October 2009 - The Vines Resort, Swan Valley

This national conference aims to reflect and build on changing the safety culture on farms and in rural communities. The program is a diverse and colourful event that is underpinned by quality abstracts and spear-headed by several outstanding individuals whose presentations will inspire, inform and entertain.

Nestled in the beautiful Swan Valley, just 25 minutes from Perth, The Vines Resort is a preferred location for business and leisure travellers with its world-class country club facilities and 18 hole championship golf course.

The conference is an excellent opportunity for you to learn more and discuss safety issues and injury prevention strategies in the agriculture and associated industries; network with national and international delegates as well as be inspired

by our guest speakers. As well as an informative conference program, activities such as the Field Tour, presentation of the National Farm Safety Awards and a 4-wheel motorbike demonstration will ensure you will benefit from this conference.

You may also like to add to your itinerary the famous 'Spring in the Valley' - celebrating

WA's finest food and wine destination, on the 10th and 11th October.

Further information can be found by visiting the website <http://www.farmsafewa.org/page/National-Conference.aspx> or by contacting Michelle Taylor, Farmsafe WA Alliance on 9359 4118 or email [farmsafe\\_eo@westnet.com.au](mailto:farmsafe_eo@westnet.com.au)

+++++

### REMOTE INDIGENOUS GARDENS NETWORK PROJECT (RIG NETWORK)

The RIG Network project is a cross-sectoral networking initiative that aims to help connect people with interests in local food garden projects and the health, and social and economic wellbeing of people living in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. By undertaking research and communications, RIG Network aims to assist people and projects to link up so that they can connect with useful resources, support avenues and project experiences. We aim to foster new conversations and partnerships to help progress sustainable local food garden initiatives that can contribute to healthy communities and environments.

To help develop the network and resources, we are undertaking two research surveys. Participation in the surveys by interested members of the National Rural Health Alliance are sought by end August.

The RIG Information Survey aims to gather cross-sectoral data and strategic input from participants in research, community, business, government and non-government organizations. To complete this survey, please click on [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Xayl8L4i1DExoT3yhecHWw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Xayl8L4i1DExoT3yhecHWw_3d_3d)

The RIG Garden Profile Survey aims to enable people to tell us about gardens they have worked with so that other people and communities can learn from their garden stories and experiences. To complete this survey, please click on [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=bfJRGv1tfIGx59IA3c\\_2ba\\_2fw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=bfJRGv1tfIGx59IA3c_2ba_2fw_3d_3d)

The RIG Network website, under construction, is at <http://www.remoteindigenousgardens.net> and is host to a discussion Forum where we welcome discussion and other contributions to the network.

Anthea Fawcett  
Director, RIG Network  
[anthea@remoteindigenousgardens.net](mailto:anthea@remoteindigenousgardens.net)  
ph: 02 9818 1580/ 0419 478856

+++++

### THE LEADERSHIP IN NURSING AND MIDWIFERY AWARDS

The Leadership in Nursing and Midwifery awards is an annual event that recognises inspiring nurses and midwives who have contributed to the profession and benefited the public by improving health service delivery, capacity and/or policy. Are you, or do you know such a leader?

Apply now or nominate someone you know.

Guest dinner speaker, Ms Christine Nixon APM, Chair of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority

Winners to be announced at the awards dinner

A number of prizes including \$20,000 awarded to a nurse or midwife who has contributed to the profession and benefited the public by improving health service delivery, capacity and/or policy

2008 Winners:

The Deakin Health Super Leadership in Nursing Award of \$20,000 - Ms Tricia Bulic

Excellence in Nursing Leadership in an Urban Health Care Environment of \$6000 - Dr Judy Currey

Excellence in Nursing Leadership in a Regional Health Care Environment of \$6000 - Mr Mark Arnold

Excellence in Nursing Leadership in a Rural Health Care Environment of \$6000 - Ms Leanne McCann

Highly Commended Certificate, Dr Julie Considine

For information on award categories and to download and submit an application, visit the web site at <http://www.deakin.edu.au/hmnbs/nursing/awards/index.php>

Applications are now open and close Friday 11 September 2009

+++++

## RURAL HEALTH EDUCATION FOUNDATION SATELLITE TELEVISION BROADCASTS

Suicide Prevention

Produced by the Rural Health Education Foundation

Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August

Nationally 8.00pm NSW, ACT, VIC, QLD, TAS; 7.30pm SA & NT; 6pm W

LIVE simultaneous webcast and satellite broadcast

This program aims to explore suicidal motivation and prevalence within rural and remote communities. It recognises the importance of early intervention and promotes the use and implementation of the national strategic framework, *Living is For Everyone: A Framework for Prevention of Suicide in Australia*. The program will also explore the role of primary health care professionals in rural practice and the importance of recognition and treatment of depression and other suicidal risk factors. It will also examine protective factors and the relationship between good physical and psychological health and suicide prevention.

[http://www.rhef.com.au/program-1/?program\\_id=385](http://www.rhef.com.au/program-1/?program_id=385)

Panel of Speakers

Chair: Dr Norman Swan - Presenter of the *Health Report* on ABC Radio National

Prof Diego De Leo - Director, Aust. Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention; Professor of Psychopathology and Suicidology, Griffith University, QLD

Mr Tony Gee - Psychologist, Life Is.Foundation, Melbourne, VIC  
Ms Adele Cox - Indigenous member of Australian Suicide Prevention Advisory Council,  
private consultant and part time lecturer Centre for Aboriginal Medical and Dental Health,  
The University of Western Australia  
Dr David Pierce - General Practitioner, Ballarat, Victoria and Director of Department of  
Rural Health, University of Melbourne

All details including program information, panellists, resources, broadcast times and other  
viewing options can be found on the Foundation's website <http://www.rhef.com.au> or  
contacting the Foundation office on (02) 6232 5480.

+++++

Partyline is the newsletter of the National Rural Health Alliance. Partyline enables  
communication within the rural community and invites contributions about issues relating to  
health and wellbeing in rural, regional and remote parts of Australia. Subscription is free. All  
back copies of Partyline are available at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>

To submit contributions or request subscription, email [partyline@ruralhealth.org.au](mailto:partyline@ruralhealth.org.au)

+++++

CLICK TO GIVE FREE MAMMOGRAMS  
<http://www.thebreastcancersite.com/clickToGive/home.faces?siteId=2>

+++++

A mental health first aid training program for Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
peoples

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training was developed in Australia to teach members of  
the public how to give initial help to someone developing a mental health problem or in a  
mental health crisis situation. However, this type of training requires adaptation for specific  
cultural groups in the community. This paper describes the adaptation of the program to  
create an Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health First Aid (AMHFA)  
course and presents an initial evaluation of its uptake and acceptability.  
<http://www.ijmhs.com/content/3/1/10>

+++++

The Australian Journal of Rural Health is a multidisciplinary journal, which aims to facilitate  
the formation of interdisciplinary networks to build and advance rural practice for all health  
professionals. Get published in the *Australian Journal of Rural Health*! The Journal  
welcomes short reports and letters to the editor as well as review articles, original research  
articles and clinical perspectives. For useful tips on submitting your manuscript, read the  
FREE editorial, *How to get published in the Australian Journal of Rural Health*.

Manuscripts can be submitted online at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ajrh> Manuscript  
Central or posted to AJRH. The Australian Journal of Rural Health is published on behalf of  
the National Rural Health Alliance by Blackwell Publishing Asia Pty Ltd 155 Cremorne

Street Richmond Vic. 3121 Tel: +61 (0)3 9274 3100 Fax: +61 (0)3 9274 3101 E-mail:  
[melbourne@johnwiley.com.au](mailto:melbourne@johnwiley.com.au)

August 2009 issue now available. Contents include:

Editorial - Use of chronic disease management plans in rural practice

Original Articles

Approach to treatment of mental illness and substance dependence in remote Indigenous communities: Results of a mixed methods study

Do rural hospitals lag behind urban hospitals in addressing community health needs? An analysis of recent trends in US community hospitals

At work or play: A comparison of private property vehicle crashes with those occurring on public roads in north Queensland

Asthma management in rural New South Wales: Perceptions of health care professionals and people with asthma

Regional differences among employed nurses: A Queensland study

What stresses remote area nurses? Current knowledge and future action

Water conservation in surgery: A comparison of two surgical scrub techniques demonstrating the amount of water saved using a 'taps on/taps off' technique

Short Reports

Community-driven intervention to reduce injury rates in school-age snowboarders

Identifying and addressing barriers to the use of enhanced primary care plans for chronic disease in rural practices

Viewpoint Rural pathology under the microscope

Grazing - Association between jigsaw puzzles and rural health in Australia

Book Reviews

Mastering Bipolar Disorder - An Insider's Guide to Managing Mood Swings and Finding Balance

Gastroenterology and Hepatology: A Clinical Handbook, 1st edition

From the Journal Associates

Rural health: The place to be

Royal College of Nursing, *Australia*, delivers online training to meet the information technology needs of rural nurses and midwives

Further information at <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/ajr>

+++++

Join *friends* of the Alliance now for 2009 and get discounted registration for the 10th Conference in Cairns in May. People who pay the *friends* fee after 1 September are members for the whole of the following calendar year. *friends* members will also receive the updated CD 'Rural and Remote Health Papers 1991-2009' (due out in late 2009), connection with the Alliance's policy work and regular issues of the *Partyline* newsletter. Above all, membership of *friends* gives you the opportunity to support the Alliance and its work. The *friends* Advisory Committee is: Alicia Eaton (Vic), John Ferguson (Qld), Jane Fisher (ACT), Janet Fletcher (NT), Pauline Glover (SA), Nigel Jefford (WA), Marie Lally (SA), Suzanne Little (Qld), Irene Mills (WA), Beth Smith (TAS), Janie Smith (NSW), Janet Struber (NT), David Templeman (ACT), David Thompson (Vic) and Robin Toohey (NSW). Members of the Committee are soon to elect a Chairperson, who will be a Member of the NRHA Council.

+++++

## RURAL HEALTH ON THE WEB

(From Giga Alert, <http://www.gigaalert.com/>)

Rural Health Education Network of D.O.M.S. Counties, NYS  
Consortium of health education organizations in Delaware, Otsego, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties, New York State.  
<http://www.ruralhealthnet.org/>

### Rural Health Policy Links

... University Center for Rural Health and Social Service Development ... Rural Wisconsin ...  
to the HRSA Office of Rural Health Policy. ...

<http://tasc.ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/links.shtml>

### Kansas Rural Health Options Project (KRHOP)-Home

Welcome to the Kansas Rural Health Options Project website. ... and enhancing access to essential health care services in rural Kansas. ...

<http://krhop.org/>

### Rural Health Policy

The Rural Health Grantee Technical Assistance Program ("TAP") provides targeted ... For general inquiries to the HRSA Office of Rural Health Policy, click here. ...

<http://www.ruralresource.org/>

+++++

## LIFELINE INFORMATION SERVICE - 1300 13 11 14

Your Rural Mental Health Information Service Lifeline's Information Service is a rural mental health information service. Information provided includes: referral to services and web sites, printed material and a range of self help resources. The self-help resources focus on practical steps to help promote mental health in a range of areas. For information and copies of resources call or visit <http://www.lifeline.org.au/infoservice> and further information is available at [infoservice@lifeline.org.au](mailto:infoservice@lifeline.org.au) and <http://www.lifeline.org.au>

+++++

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEWS

### Invitations for \$60 million digital program now open

The Australian Government's new \$60 million Digital Regions Initiative is now calling for state, territory and local governments to develop comprehensive project proposals for funding under the program. The four-year initiative will co-fund innovative digital enablement projects that will change the way essential health, education and/or emergency services are delivered to regional, rural and remote communities. Final guidelines have been released and have incorporated comments received from 30 submissions on the draft guidelines and from a national stakeholder consultation process. Expressions of interest close on 14 September 2009. Full project proposals are due by 14 October 2009. More information and a copy of the guidelines visit <http://www.dbcde.gov.au/digitalregions>

Discussion paper on Indigenous housing

The paper presents possible amendments to the Native Title Act aimed at speeding up housing construction and infrastructure so Indigenous communities can quickly benefit from COAG's \$5.5 billion investment.

Read more: <http://www.alp.org.au/media/0809/msagia130.php>

### New Allied Health Web-Based Training Package Launched

Education and training for allied health workers is now just a mouse click away after a new web-based training package was launched. The Project was undertaken by Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health Inc (SARRAH). SARRAH was one of the ten successful applicants for the 2008-09 Rural Health Support, Education and Training (RHSET) grants round announced by the Rudd Government in December 2008.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr09-nr-nr119.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2009&mth=8>

+++++

### AUSTRALIAN ORGAN DONOR REGISTER ONLINE

The Australian Organ Donor Register is Australia's only national organ and tissue donor register and serves as a lifeline to the people on the organ transplant waiting lists. Register online at <http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/public/services/aodr/register.jsp> to be an Australian Organ Donor now!

+++++

### CRCAH News

The twentieth edition of the CRCAH's bi-monthly newsletter is out now. Among other stories this edition includes news of the CRCAH successful application for extension to our funding plus:

- \* A new report on improving funding arrangements for Aboriginal Medical Services
- \* The launch of Wuchopperen's Mums and Bubs Program
- \* A new register for Indigenous tobacco control programs
- \* A new website promoting research ethics

To view the newsletter click on the link below (please allow the document to download, or alternatively you can download directly to your computer).

<http://www.crcah.org.au/communication/downloads/gwalwagai20.pdf>

+++++

### BUSH CRISIS LINE - 1800 805 391

Bush Crisis Line is a twenty-four hour confidential telephone support and debriefing service for multi-disciplinary remote and rural health practitioners and their families. It is staffed by qualified psychologists with remote and cross-cultural experience, is toll free and available from anywhere in Australia. For more information <http://www.bushcrisisline.org.au>

+++++

### RURAL HEALTH ON THE ABC

(See <http://www.abc.net.au/health/healthyliving/yourhealth/ruralregionalhealth/>)

Men's health. Prostate Cancer Australia is setting up the Ambassadors Program to train locals in health messages which they can then pass on to their community. Rural men have a 21% higher rate of prostate cancer deaths than city men.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/telegraph/index/weekly.htm>

Queensland doctors want Rudd to visit rural hospitals

The president of the Queensland Rural Doctors Association says major infrastructure funding is needed for rural hospitals, and she wants the Prime Minister to assess the situation.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/200908/s2660665.htm>

Meeting seeks solutions to violence against rural women

Violence against female professionals in rural and remote areas is making it difficult to retain staff in towns outside Australia's cities. That's the message being relayed at a roundtable discussion in Canberra today, where a national strategy will be developed.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/200908/s2660687.htm>

LIFE AND TIMES: That they may live - the Royal Flying Doctors Service

In 1993 Encounter 's Florence Spurling joined the doctors from the Charleville base in Western Queensland. She spent a day in the remote opal mining community of Yowah.

<http://abcmail.net.au/t/598499/614869/4222/0/>

Rural areas to receive breast cancer support boost

Breast cancer patients from rural areas will soon have better access to some support services. A \$2.7 million funding package from the Federal Government will be used to help women stay in contact with their families via online video links.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/08/15/2656931.htm>

Abortion pill 'would benefit rural women'

Family Planning Queensland says it would like to see women in the state's regional and remote areas have access to the medical abortion drug RU 486.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/08/10/2651427.htm>

Bathurst teaching centre to attract young doctors

Bathurst is set to be home to one of two new multi-million dollar health teaching facilities in New South Wales.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/08/07/2648595.htm>

Swine flu taxes the Flying Doctor

The Queensland Royal Flying Doctor Service is preparing to transport significantly more people as a result of swine flu.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/200908/s2649213.htm>

Hospital funding increases 'not enough'

The Rural Doctors Association is not impressed with the funding increases announced for hospitals in western Victoria.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/08/06/2647819.htm>

+++++

RDAA NEWS

National Roundtable to address growing violence in rural and remote workplaces  
19 August 2009

[http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded\\_documents/Working%20Safe%20roundtable%20media%20release%20--%20August%202009.pdf](http://www.rdaa.com.au/uploaded_documents/Working%20Safe%20roundtable%20media%20release%20--%20August%202009.pdf)

+++++

CURRENT ISSUE OF eMJA

(Available at <http://www.mja.com.au/>)

Rapid Online Publications: *Pandemic (H1N1) 2009*

ASID/TSANZ guidelines: treatment and prevention of H1N1 influenza 09 (human swine influenza) with antiviral agents - Updated 13 August 2009

More pandemic (H1N1) 2009 rapid online publications: June - July 2009

Current issue: 17 August 2009

From the Editor's Desk: Dismembering GPs

Editorials

Critical importance of effective supervision in postgraduate medical education

Asthma in older adults: a holistic, person-centred and problem-oriented approach

Evidence-based uncertainty: recent trial results on prostate-specific antigen testing and prostate cancer mortality

Research

Health and mortality consequences of abdominal obesity: evidence from the AusDiab study

Second opinions in oncology: the experiences of patients attending the Sydney Cancer Centre Health Care

Patient privacy versus protecting the patient and the health system from harm: a case study

"Through a glass, darkly": the clinical and ethical implications of Munchausen syndrome

For Debate - Clinical supervision by consultants in teaching hospitals

Viewpoint

The role of research in the failure of the alcopops excise in Australia: what have we learned?

Screening for prostate cancer: explaining new trial results and their implications to patients

History - The King versus Aleck Bourne

Notable Cases - Imported West Nile virus encephalitis in an Israeli tourist

Letters

Syphilitic periopic neuritis mimicking papilloedema

Challenging respiratory infections in cystic fibrosis

What can public health surveillance of emergency department presentations for acute alcohol problems tell us about social trends in drinking behaviour?

Water recycling - forwards or backwards for public health?

Making sense of differing bowel cancer screening guidelines

Book Reviews

How to succeed at medical school. An essential guide to learning

Younger onset dementia. A practical guide

Obituary - Richard John Smidlin

+++++

ARTICLE IN "RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH"

'Evaluation of a training program for device operators in the Australian Government's Point of Care Testing in General Practice Trial: issues and implications for rural and remote practices'

Arguments surrounding point of care testing in general practice are often based on problems in maintaining and credentialing staff. This important national study offers an education solution that is relevant to both rural and urban general practice in Australia.

<http://www.rrh.org.au/articles/showarticlenew.asp?ArticleID=1189>

+++++

ABS 3235.0 Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2008

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/3235.0?OpenDocument>

+++++

Healthy, wealthy and wise?: The relationship between health, employment and earnings in Australia

Health is wealth, goes the adage. The message is clear: those who are healthy are likely to earn more. Is this old adage still applicable in Australia today? Are people with better health able to earn more than their peers with poorer health? How big is the gap? This 23rd issue of the AMP.NATSEM Income and Wealth Report series examines how health underpins the employment and earnings of working-age Australians.

<http://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/AMP.NATSEM%20report%20Healthy%2C%20wealthy%20and%20wise%20July%202009.pdf>

+++++

Low Life Expectancy in the United States: Is the Health Care System at Fault?

by Samuel H. Preston, Jessica Y. Ho - #15213 (AG HC)

Life expectancy in the United States fares poorly in international comparisons, primarily because of high mortality rates above age 50. Its low ranking is often blamed on a poor performance by the health care system rather than on behavioral or social factors. This paper presents evidence on the relative performance of the US health care system using death avoidance as the sole criterion. We find that, by standards of OECD countries, the US does well in terms of screening for cancer, survival rates from cancer, survival rates after heart attacks and strokes, and medication of individuals with high levels of blood pressure or cholesterol. We consider in greater depth mortality from prostate cancer and breast cancer, diseases for which effective methods of identification and treatment have been developed and where behavioral factors do not play a dominant role. We show that the US has had significantly faster declines in mortality from these two diseases than comparison countries. We conclude that the low longevity ranking of the United States is not likely to be a result of a poorly functioning health care system. <http://papers.nber.org/papers/W15213>

+++++

Seminar: The Overburden Project: Contracting for Indigenous Health Services, in Adelaide,

on 24 August, 12.30 pm. Presented by Kim O'Donnell at the Flinders Aboriginal Health Research Unit, Room N220B, Sturt North Wing Faculty of Health Sciences.

+++++

Linking Indigenous policy with service delivery 2009  
Tuesday 25 August 2009 9:00 am - Wednesday 26 August 2009 5:00 pm  
Cairns, Queensland  
<http://www.indigenous-policy.com/>

+++++

Indigenous Policy Forum 2009  
26th - 28th August 2009, the Mercure Hotel, Brisbane

Indigenous Policy Forum 2009 will address the core issues surrounding the development and implementation of Indigenous policy nationwide.

Tel: +61 2 9224 6060  
Email: [conferences@TonkinCorporation.com](mailto:conferences@TonkinCorporation.com)

+++++

7<sup>th</sup> Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Health Care  
6-9 September 2009  
Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre  
Darling Harbour, Sydney

<http://www.aaqhc2009.org.au>  
[aaqhc2009@tourhosts.com.au](mailto:aaqhc2009@tourhosts.com.au)

+++++

The Rural Medicine Australia 2009 Conference

Conference Hosts:

Rural Medicine Australia 2009 is the tenth annual conference jointly hosted by the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM), and the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA). This year, we welcome the participation of the Rural Doctors Association of Victoria (RDAV) and the National Rural Medical Family Network.

Rural Medicine Australia 2009 will present outstanding opportunities for doctors and other health professionals working in rural and remote medicine to connect with colleagues, learn new skills, share their knowledge - and enjoy a brief respite from the pressures of work.

The conference sessions and workshops will emphasise practical skills and knowledge with immediate application to the demands of rural medicine. The conference welcomes other professionals - including allied health workers and government representatives - who share the commitment to quality health care for Australians living in rural and remote communities.

Rural Medicine Australia 2009 will run from Thursday, 29 October to Sunday 1 November 2009 in Melbourne.

Information available at <http://www.acrrm.com.au/>

+++++

1st Australian Rural & Remote Mental Health Symposium, in Canberra, on 2-3 November  
<http://anzmh.asn.au/rmha9/>

+++++

Year of the Blood Donor 2009

An anticipated doubling of demand for blood and blood products within 10 years has led the Australian Red Cross Blood Service to launch a nationwide recruitment drive in 2009 Year of the Blood Donor. The Blood Service is appealing for more than 100,000 new blood donors this year, in addition to the 40,000 who registered across Australia to give blood in the week after the Victorian bushfires.

[http://www.healthinsite.gov.au/news/Year\\_of\\_the\\_Blood\\_Donor\\_2009](http://www.healthinsite.gov.au/news/Year_of_the_Blood_Donor_2009)

+++++

1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Health Services Delivery Management (1<sup>st</sup> CHSDM)  
Phitsanulok Thailand 14-16<sup>th</sup> October 2009

The 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Health Services Delivery Management (1<sup>st</sup> CHSDM) is open to all individuals interested in the field of health services delivery management. The particular focus of the conference is on strengthening the management of Primary Health Care and district rural health services. Australian (including Indigenous) speakers will feature alongside international and Thai presenters. Call for abstracts is now open.

Conference partners include WHO SEARO, Australian College of Health Service Executives (ACHSE), University of New England (UNE) Australia and Naresuan University Thailand, Thai Ministry of Public Health and Thailand Cardiac Children's Foundation.

The conference partners welcome participants from developing and developed countries who want to work collaboratively towards improving health systems to deliver quality health care by learning from each other and comparing health systems in international contexts.

For further details please go to the Conference website <http://www.health.nu.ac.th/hdm2009>

Contacts: Dr. David Briggs UNE [dbriggs@une.edu.au](mailto:dbriggs@une.edu.au); Dr P. Taytiwat [taytiwat@yahoo.com](mailto:taytiwat@yahoo.com); Carolyn Marsh ACHSE [cmarsh@achse.org.au](mailto:cmarsh@achse.org.au)

+++++

NACCHO AGM/ MEMBERS MEETING  
10-13 NOVEMBER  
CROWNE PLAZA, DARWIN

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Elaine Lomas  
NACCHO secretariat  
0262480644 or [Elaine@naccho.org.au](mailto:Elaine@naccho.org.au)

+++++

*Australia's welfare 2009* conference-Canberra, 17 November 2009

Our one-day national welfare conference offers a value-for-money opportunity to hear from international and Australian experts and get the latest statistics on social inclusion and welfare services. This year's event features the Reverend Tim Costello, Australian of the Year Mick Dodson, the Hon. Jenny Macklin MP, and Chair of the Australian Social Inclusion Board Patricia Faulkner.

<http://guest.event.com/i.aspx?5S,M3,7be89b98-74da-47c9-bca4-a617198cc580>

+++++

From: Elisia Dowling  
Subject: International *Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress*

With the increasing recognition of the value of nature to human health and wellbeing worldwide, Parks Victoria will host the inaugural International *Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress* at the new Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Australia from 11-16 April 2010.

This will be a unique opportunity to bring together delegates from all relevant sectors (i.e. planning, community development, physical and mental health, tourism, climate change, education, recreation, ecology and park management) to explore how we can take better advantage of the way nature significantly contributes to our wellbeing and broader societal benefits.

We are seeking proposals under the following themes: Healthy Communities, Healthy Parks, Healthy Participation, Healthy People and subthemes.

In addition to the partners displayed on the website, the support of the World Health Organisation, United Nations World Tourism Organisation, US Federal Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the Australian Federal Government Department of Health & Ageing is being sought.

<http://www.healthyparkshealthypeoplecongress.org>

Elisia Dowling  
Project Officer  
International Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress April 11-16, 2010  
Parks Victoria  
Level 10/535 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Vic 3000, Australia  
Ph: (03) 8680 2138 Fax: (03) 9613 4722 M: 0428 598 322

+++++

## Healing Our Spirit 2010

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers and researchers are advised to start planning now for Healing Our Spirit Worldwide The Sixth Gathering, which is due to take place on the island of Honolulu in Hawaii from 3 to 10 September 2010. The goal of Healing Our Spirit Worldwide (HOSW) is to celebrate the diverse and unique cultural strengths, knowledge and talents of Indigenous peoples around the world, with a particular focus on successes, best practices and common issues in health, healing and addictions.

The Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health is a proud supporter of and committed participant in the gathering, which will be hosted by native Hawaiian healthcare organisation Papa Ola Lōkahi (<http://www.papaolalokahi.org>).

Event organisers are now accepting abstracts, presentations and proposals for the sharing of cultural practices and performing arts. These need to be submitted by 8 September 2009 via the link on the home page of the HOSW website (<http://www.hosw.com>).

For more information:

Maria Halkitis - Contract Manager, 08 8943 5020

Mick Gooda - CEO, 0409 688 403

+++++

The 11th National Rural Health Conference will be held in Perth on 13-16 March 2011.

+++++

### CONTRIBUTION AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER

The NRHA e-forum is published fortnightly. Contributions are sought on any topic relevant to rural health concerns. Please send contributions to the moderator at [grovesc@winshop.com.au](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au) (do not "reply" to this email - send contributions to [grovesc@winshop.com.au](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au)). Contributions received by the Friday of publication will be included in the e-forum.

The NRHA e-forum is edited by a third party moderator, Jim Groves. As such, the Alliance does not control postings and the contents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alliance. Nor do postings necessarily reflect the views of Jim Groves or any organisation he is associated with. Jim Groves can be contacted at [grovesc@winshop.com.au](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au)

Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.

---

[Click here to be removed from the mailing list](#)

